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PATENT

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C. H. H.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Kazuhiro MAENO and Eiji KONO

U.S. Serial No.: 10/019,201

Group Art Unit: 2811

Filing Date: December 20, 2001

Examiner: not yet assigned

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

Assistant Commissioner of
Patents & Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-referenced patent application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

In the Specification:

Please replace lines 20-23 with the following rewritten lines:

A' ~elements arranged on a substrate, and a main current electrode which is arranged near said plurality of semiconductor elements and vertically apart from the surface of the substrate, wherein each of the~